

*Metro Area  
Professional Organization*

*Welcomes You  
to*

*Our*

**M A P O**



*12<sup>th</sup> Annual  
Honors Dinner*

*Celebration*

*Abundantly Blessed*

*May 21, 2022*

*4:00 p.m.*





*G. C. Swing Band*  
*Director Butch Mestemacher*

*Seating of Dais  
and  
2022 Honorees*



Dr. Dorothy Owens



Vergia Burrell



Louise Forney

# The Genesis Dancers

Rev. Tracy Wiggins, CEO



# Presentation of Colors

Southern  
Illinois  
University  
Color Guard  
Commander  
Mark Langford





**David J. Hoskin Barkley IV**  
**Age 8**



**Anaya Hoskin Barkley**  
**Age 5**

Special Rising Stars leading us in our Pledge of Allegiance





Rev. Tabitha Nelson  
St. Luke's United  
Methodist Church  
Maryville, IL

Prayer of  
Humanity



**Dr. Henrietta Young, President  
Presenting the  
“Metro Area  
Professional Organization  
Mission Statement”  
and  
introducing our  
“MAPO EMCEE”  
Former Mayor  
of  
East St. Louis, Il.**

**Mr. Alvin Parks**

# *Metro Area Professional Organization*

## *Mission Statement*

MAPO is “One ready and generous In helping those in distress”. Mapo is for humanity, a non-for-profit organization (501c3), whose mission is to share and care for the homeless and hungry, networking with shelters who are in need of supplies and offering scholarships to our youth.





**Alvin Parks**

**MAPO Emcee**

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**MAPO Honoree  
Member**



*Welcome Words*  
*Edwardsville Mayor*  
*Art Risavy*

It is with gratitude and sincere pleasure that I welcome the Metro Area Professional Organization, its members and guests to *The 12<sup>th</sup> Annual Honors Dinner* here at the beautiful SIUE Campus in the City of Edwardsville.

I wish all of you continued success with your heartfelt generosity in caring for the homeless and hungry and youth throughout the Metro Area.

Thank you and have an enjoyable day.

*Welcome from the  
Chancellor's Office*

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Dr. Jessica Harris,  
Vice Chancellor  
Equity, Diversity  
and Inclusion

Southern Illinois University  
Edwardsville II



MAPO  
Honorary  
Member

Mayor David Goins  
Alton, Illinois

*Invocation  
and  
Grace*





G.C. Swing Band  
**Dinner and Silent Auction**



# Tonnie Kamkwalala, Jr. Rising Star

Instrumental Solo: Saxophone

# *Special Greetings*



**Senator Christopher Belt, 57<sup>th</sup> District**

# Special Greetings

## “THE HONORABLE NEWLY ELECTED MAYORS”



Kelly Hoskins, KTVI  
Fox 2 News  
Award-Winning  
News Anchor and  
Reporter



Honorable Mayor  
Michael Morrow  
Grafton, Illinois



Honorable Mayor  
Mike Parkinson  
Granite City, Il.



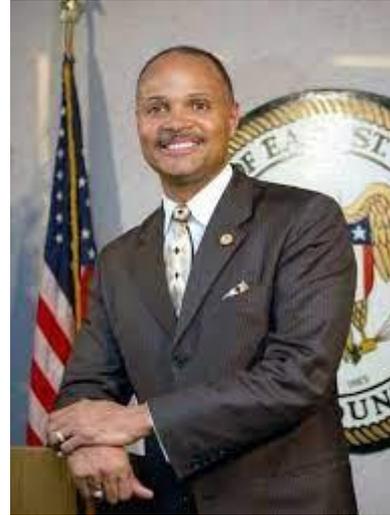
Dr. LaTonia Collins Smith  
President of  
Harris Stowe University  
St. Louis, Mo.



**Dr. Dorothy Owens,  
MAPO Founder,  
Consultant**



**Rev. Dr. John Q. Owens  
MAPO Co-Founder,  
Consultant**



**MAPO  
Honorable  
Alvin Parks**



**Dr. Henrietta Young,  
President of MAPO**

*Presentation of Distinguished Professional Achievers*

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**Mr. Sekhar Prabhakar,STEM,  
Education Consultant**



**Dr. Sunitha Thanjavurn  
MAPO Outreach**



**Brittany Johnson,  
Editor of  
Edwardsville  
Intelligencer  
MAPO Grants**



**Phyllis Roper  
MAPO  
Scholarships and  
Outreach**

*Presentation of Distinguished Professional Achievers*

*Government*

# Mayor Mike Morrow of Grafton, IL (U.S. Army Colonel)

- Mayor Mike Morrow was elected mayor of Grafton, IL in May 2021. He is a retired U.S. Army Colonel and the former president of Triumph Fabrications St. Louis, an aerospace manufacturing company. He and his wife Lynne have three children and seven grandchildren and live in Grafton, Illinois.





# Mayor Mike Parkinson of Granite City, IL

Michael (Mike) Charles Parkinson, was elected the 26<sup>th</sup> Mayor of Granite City in April 2021 after serving with the Granite City Police Department for twenty-four years. Mike Parkinson was raised in Granite City his entire life attending Parkview Elementary, Coolidge Junior High, and Granite City High School. Following high school, he attended college and holds a Bachelor's of Science in Administration of Justice with a minor in Business Administration. Mayor Parkinson worked for six years at the United States Postal Service prior to becoming a police officer. Mayor Parkinson was married to Amy (Livingston) Parkinson in 2000 and together have two children Conor and Aidan.

Mike joined the Granite City Police Department as a Police 911 Telecommunicator in 1996 and became a Police Officer in 1998. He was promoted to Lieutenant at the Police Department commanding divisions of Undercover Narcotics, Street Crimes, and Crime Free Housing and served sixteen years on the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis, working his way up to be a Deputy Commander. He now serves on the Board of Directors of the Major Case Squad of Greater St. Louis as the Illinois Mayor Representative. He also served as the President of the Police Benevolent Association for 10 years during his career.

In 2017, Mayor Parkinson was elected to the Madison County Board where he served four years. Mayor Parkinson served on the Judiciary, Tax Cycle, Public Safety, Building and Grounds, as well as the Special Service Area One Committees.



# Tena Johnson

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Tena Johnson began her career in 1987 with the Department of Justice Services in St. Louis as a corrections officer.

After she graduated from the University of Tennessee, and while attending Washington University graduate school in St. Louis to take classes in counseling, Tena was promoted to the position of a case manager.

In the years that followed, Tena has served in all positions including internal affairs manager, various unit manager positions, community corrections and operations superintendent, and most recently she was appointed to serve as superintendent of security.

# Neyna Jo McMurray Johnson

Neyna was born & raised in Alton, Illinois and attended the public school system. She spent her Sophomore & Junior years of high school in Bangkok, Thailand at the International School of Bangkok. An alumna of SIU Edwardsville, she obtained her Bachelor of Science Degree in Human Services and Psychology and a Master's Degree of Science in Counseling.

A Retiree after 30 years of service with the State of Illinois' Dept on Aging. She held the positions of State and Deputy State Long-term Care Ombudsman and Elder Abuse Specialist. The Dept on Aging provides a multitude of services and resources for adults 60 years and older, throughout the entire State.

Neyna, grew up attending Campbell Chapel AME Church where she became the church musician at age thirteen, and directed both the senior and youth choirs. She later moved to Springfield IL, where she also became musician and choir director for the Sanctuary and Youth choirs. Presently, she is a Steward and the Pastor's Steward. For decades Neyna has faithfully played and sung for worship services, weddings, funerals, programs, civic and community events.

She is a member of Sigma Gamma Rho Inc, has sung with a 4-women vocal group called "The Four Sopranos" for over 15 years and has participated in numerous church and community choirs, ensembles, and summer musicals at the Muni.

Neyna is married to husband Milton, they have two children and three grandchildren.

Her Life Motto: "If I can help somebody, as I pass along, then my living shall not be in vain"





*Clergy*



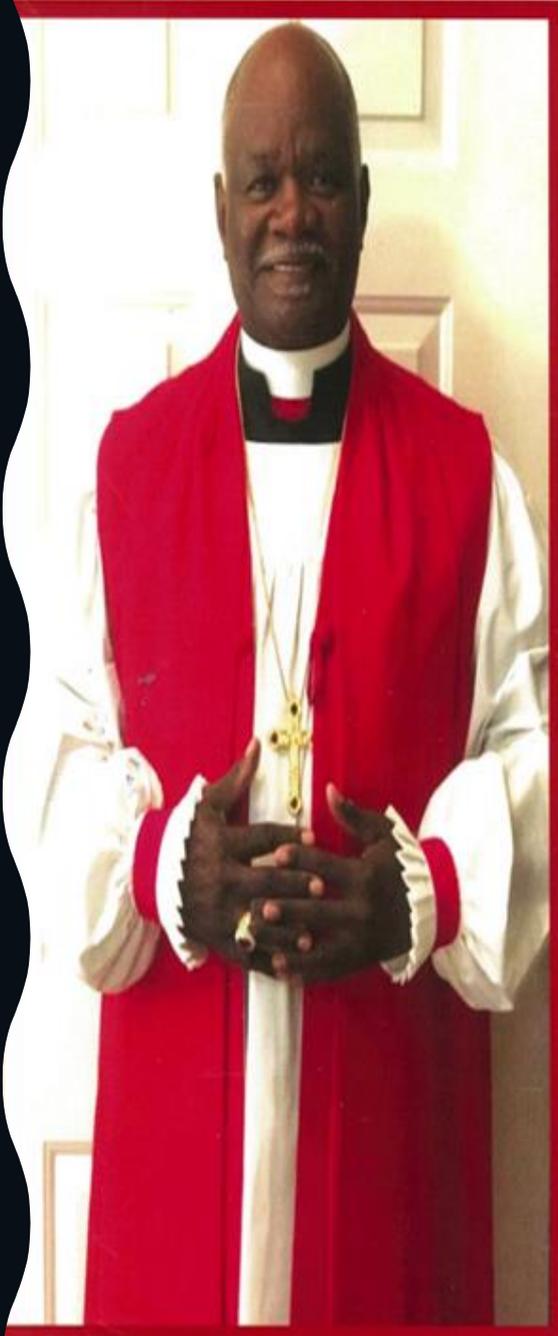
# Rev. Pierce L. Harper Sr.

Pierce L. Harper Sr. is the youngest of four brothers born to Peter L. Harper Sr. and Vivian M. Harper.

Rev. Pierce has a passion for the Lord Jesus, his Savior; a passion for God's people and humanity at large, a passion for his family; and a passion for sharing the message of his calling as a Minister of the Gospel of Jesus Christ. Pierce journeys with people, organizations and faith communities in linking intellect, passion and practice. He has extensive training and experience with organizations and systems to increase capacity, transform culture, and create resilient and sustainable opportunities.

Pierce earned his Bachelor's degree from Governors State University in Criminal Justice; a graduate of Triton College with an Associate's degree in Liberal Arts; a graduate of Proviso East High School; and is continuing his education by attending Garret Evangelical Theological Seminary to pursue a Masters of Divinity. Pierce has further served humanity in his professional life in the Healthcare profession, where he is currently employed as a Project's Manager and has been in this field for the last 12 years.

He is married to Ashlon and they both have a boy name Pierce Jr.



## Bishop Dr. Jack H. Townsend Sr.

Jackie (Jack) Townsend Sr. was born on January 6, 1949 in Edwardsville, Il to the proud parents Inez W. Townsend and Rev. Henry B. Townsend.

He received his Doctor of Theology degree from Temple of Deliverance College of Theology.

Pastor Townsend surrendered to the call to preach the Gospel in 1982 and served as the assistant Pastor under the leadership of Pastor Jesse D. Jackson Sr.

Bishop Townsend served twenty years as pastor for the Edwardsville Church of God in Christ Congregation in Edwardsville, Il.

He served on the Madison County Ministry for Christ at Pere Marquette and Dwight Correctional facility for women for over 10 years; he received numerous certificates for his excellent and faithful service.

Pastor Townsend continues to share Gods vision for the church family, which is to win Souls for Christ. He hopes and pray the congregation will continue to grasp this vision and help bring it into reality!

*Veteran*



# Warren Schenewerk

Warren Schenewerk born in 1946 to Oscar and Virginia Schenewerk. He is the oldest of 9 children, 3 brothers (one deceased) and 5 sisters. He married Donna (nee Jung) Schenewerk and has remained married for 53 years. Upon graduation from Freeburg Community High School, he enlisted in the U. S. Navy, serving from 1964 -1968. While in the Navy Warren was a flight simulator operator on a F4 Skyhawk jet aircraft simulator. After his tour of duty, he was hired on at McDonnell Douglas Aircraft company as a draftsman and ended the last 11 of 31 years as an International Program Manager for 5 European countries anti-ship weapon programs.

Warren is a graduate of SWIC where he is honored on the Wall of Fame and SIU-E with a BS degree in Psychology. He and Donna have two sons, Dr. Christopher Schenewerk and Brian Schenewerk. They are also blessed with two grandsons, Kyle and Ryan.

Retired since 1999, he occupies his time with rental properties, substitute teaching and housework.

*Law*

# Attorney Ebony Huddleston

Attorney Ebony Huddleston graduated from Alton High School.

In 2018, Ebony opened her office, where she focuses on estate planning, civil litigation, business law and family law.

She volunteers in many professional and community enhancement organizations and programs locally and throughout the state.





## Attorney Leonard Vines

Leonard Vines is a partner at Greensfelder, Hemker & Gale, P.C. He is recognized as one of the nation's leading franchise lawyers for frequently written and lecturer on franchise topics. He recently received an American Bar Association Award in honor of his substantial contribution to the field of franchise law.

*Education*

# Dr. Jessica Harris

Jessica Harris, PhD, was named Southern Illinois University Edwardsville's (SIUE) inaugural Vice Chancellor of Equity, Diversity and Inclusion in March 2021. Prior to this appointment, Harris served as Assistant Provost for Academic Equity and Inclusive Excellence in the Office of the Provost. An accomplished teacher and scholar of 20th century African American History, she is also a tenured Associate Professor in the Department of History and formerly served as Director of the Black Studies Program. Harris earned both her PhD and Master of Arts in history from Cornell University and her Bachelor of Arts from Dillard University



# Sharon Clark-Hooks



Sharon Clark-Hooks moved to East St. Louis in 1975.

She began her career with the SIUE Head Start Program in 1983 through 2000. While working she continue her education in Early Childhood receiving her certification, CDA, and promoting to a teacher. Sharon received her BA in Work Force Education in 2000 and worked as a Center Manager with the YWCA Head Start Program retiring in 2011.

Sharon worked with the St. Louis Cardinals from 1990-2006 as a manager.

She has five young adults, twenty grand children and eight great-grandchildren.



# Dr. Alison Lamothe

Dr. Alison Lamothe is an educator and has been teaching Spanish at Southern Illinois University Edwardsville since 1995, at first as an Assistant Professor and since 1999 as a part-time Lecturer. Some of her most meaningful experiences as a student and as an educator has been through study abroad trips to Mexico, Spain and Ecuador. She also has served as 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President in the Non-Tenure-Track Faculty Association.

She admits she was humbled when she read that she was to be honored “as a Professional with a caring spiritual character and ambition to serve HUMANITY.” She knows others who have devoted so many hours of their lives and sacrificed far more. But then, all contributions are meaningful, and they all count. She has delivered Meals on Wheels to seniors for the Main Street Community Center, sometimes with her son, Max. She translated documents from Spanish to English for the Migrant and Immigrant Community Action Project (MICA) in Saint Louis, because she believes immigrants make America great. She served as Policy Board Secretary for the First Unitarian Church of Saint Louis. More recently she became involved in the Worthy Now Prison Ministry Program, a letter writing ministry administered by the Unitarian Universalist Church of the Larger Fellowship.

She is also seeking the Democratic nomination for Madison County Board District 18. It would be an honor and a privilege to join Mrs. Glasper on the County Board. She hopes she can count on your support. Please know that if she is elected, you can count on her.

# Dr. Andrew Reinking

Since 2019, Andrew Reinking has served as Superintendent of Schools for Madison Community Unit School District #12 in Madison, Illinois.

Prior to Madison, he served as Assistant Regional Superintendent of Schools for Madison County where he supervised alternative education, truancy, and homeless education programs ensuring all students had access to quality education in a safe environment.

While at the Regional Office of Education he had also served as a Professional Development Specialist working to promote technology integration and scientific literacy practices into the classroom and as an alternative education teacher.

Andrew Reinking began his career in education at Catholic Children's Home in Alton, Illinois where he worked in both the the day school and residential programs.

Throughout his career, Andrew Reinking has worked to expand opportunities for students while striving to provide equitable access to high quality educational programs.

Andrew Reinking earned his Doctorate in Educational Leadership, Specialist in Educational Administration, and Masters in Instructional Technology from Southern Illinois University Edwardsville.

His undergraduate work was completed at Westminster College in Fulton, Missouri.

He is a 1989 graduate of Edwardsville High School.





# Dr. LaTonia Collins Smith

Dr. LaTonia Collins Smith was appointed the 21<sup>st</sup> President of Harris-Stowe University in February 2022. She is the first African American woman to lead the University. Dr. Smith has more than twenty years of progressive leadership experience with an extensive background in administration and program development.

Under her leadership, the University has raised more than \$3.5 million in scholarships, donations, and grants; kicked-off renovations for the former Vashon Community Center Building for Innovation and Entrepreneurship; granted the largest class in the University's history and increased its six-year graduation rate 6.3%.

A native of St. Louis, Dr. Collins Smith, is a proud graduate of St. Louis Public School. She earned a bachelor degree in Social Work from the University of Central Missouri, a Master of Social Work and a Master degree of Public Health from St. Louis University. In addition, she earned her doctoral degree in Higher Education Leadership from the Maryville University.

# Prince Wells, III



Prince Wells joined the Southern Illinois University Edwardsville (SIUE) faculty in 1989 and was appointed Assistant Professor in 1996. He has served as Director of the Music Business Program, Director of the Black Studies Program, Chair of the Music Department, and President of the SIUE Black Faculty and Staff Association. He currently serves as faculty advisor for the African Student Association. Wells has taught freshman Music Theory, Introduction to Music History and Literature, and other such diverse courses as Foundations of Music, Jazz History, Black Music in America, African American Music and the Struggle for Freedom, as well as developing and co-teaching Music: Art and Science (an interdisciplinary course that examines music as both an art and a science). His most recent research focuses on the Quadrivium, the relationship between arithmetic, music, geometry, and astronomy. His research paper, titled *The Common Nature of Space and Time*, was published in November 2019 by the *Journal of Interdisciplinary Sciences* and can be viewed or downloaded at this web address: <http://journalofinterdisciplinarysciences.com/wp-content/uploads/2019/10/6-The-Common-Nature-of-Space-and-Time.pdf>.



# Nola Jones Williams

Last year, Nola Jones Williams created scholarship funds within AKA-EAF.

She has been blessed with family and friends and many opportunities that includes an advanced education.

Nola has been employed with major corporations including FRB, a public accounting firm and twelve years teaching Economics for a community college.

Her hobbies are global travel, creative expression through journaling, quilt making, painting and more. She also has published books.

Nola has three grandsons and great, great-great nieces and nephews.

She states that she “Thanks God for being a Jones.” and she knows, “Jesus Loves Her” which brings her great “JOY”!

*Business*

# Linda D. Franklin

Linda's passion, in both her life and career, is undeniable. Her motto is "Your situation, is NOT your destination". It is not only her favorite personal quote, but a motto to live by in her own life experiences. Linda has over 16 years of experience as a Sr. Staffing Consultant and Employment Specialist. If asked though, Linda will say that her greatest achievement in life is being a single mother to Airman First Class Brooke Du Hart, United States Airforce. Linda is employed by Express Employment Professionals, with branches in Edwardsville and Fairview Heights, IL.

Born and raised in Madison, Illinois, she is the youngest of four siblings. After graduating from Madison Senior High and moving to California, Linda found herself alone. Turning the situation around with family support, hard work, determination, and the help of a women's shelter, she eventually found the way back home to Illinois. I thank MAPO for their generous support in serving 10 shelters in the metro area.

Linda honed skills in customer service and sales in the early 90s as a retail sales rep for high-end women's apparel. In 2006, at a local warehouse, she found a passion and niche that eventually led from a production floor role to a promotion into staffing. In 2012, when the company closed its doors, Linda joined the Express Employment Professionals family as a Staffing Consultant for their Edwardsville branch. In the current role as Sr. Employment Specialist at the Fairview Heights branch, Linda provides the opportunity each week for over 150 people to secure gainful employment in St. Clair County. She will celebrate her 10th Anniversary with Express Employment Professionals later this year!





## Sharon French

Mrs. Sharon French is the visual embodiment of what it means to be a loving, entrepreneur, caregiver as well as wife, mother, aunt, and grandmother. She fills every room up with nonstop joy and happiness. She is an excellent example for women and men of all races and creeds with her abiding loyalty and devotion, which are second only to the biblical woman Ruth!! She is a role model to the young women around her and all across the globe. She truly exemplifies what it means to be SELFLESS!!

# Coach Melody McClellan

Coach Melody is an amazing Health and Wellness Transformation

Strategist with 20 years of experience.

She is an expert in the field of health and wellness

Her mission is to assist individuals in the development and implementation of positive, effective, and sustainable health and wellness goals.

Coach Melody does this through Workplace Wellness and Youth Wellness & Life Skills Programs. She is an Executive Coach and a Dynamic Speaker.

Coach Melody has a supportive husband George McClellan, two sons, and a life member of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority Inc.



# Tamika Mitchell

Born into poverty to a teenage mom, Tamika Mitchell was blessed with opportunities and a support system that changed her life's trajectory.

As a "Bill Gates Scholar", she was able to attend St. Louis University on a full scholarship, where she studied finance. Here she graduated "Cum Laude". She earned a Master of Business Administration and a Master of Health Administration

Tamika is a lifelong learner and a Mensa Candidate where she earned a Diversity, Equity and Inclusion (DEI) Certification from Cornell University. She is also is a Certified Internal Auditor and Certified Fraud Examiner.

Tamika wears many hats both personally and professionally. She is the First Lady to her best friend, Rev. Damon Mitchell. They serve at East St. Louis St. Luke AME Church.

She is the Worship Planning Chairperson and has brought new energy; helping to increase ministry participation among young adults.

As a Manager at Armanino, LLP, she provides accounting and business consulting to several major clients in the St. Louis area.





# Carla Randolph

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- Ms. Carla Randolph has a CPA, MBA and CISA. She has operated her own accounting practice since 2003. She has taught accounting and tax preparation courses at local colleges.
- She is a graduate of Southern Illinois University in Carbondale where she earned her BS degree. She continued her education at Southern Illinois University in Edwardsville and graduated with a MBA degree. Ms. Randolph is a Certified Information Systems Auditor (CISA).



# Mrs. Ilesha Underwood

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Ilesha Underwood was born and raised in E. St . Louis, IL.

She considers herself obsessed with making people feel special & loved.

She and her husband and are centered around their businesses, “Events At The U & The Grand U.” This event is located in the Belleville area. Their business vision is that people deserve to be in celebrated in style.

# Shawndell K. Williams

Shawndell K. Williams is a mother of 3 and grandmother of 2. She has been employed with *The Salvation Army* for the past 16 years as Divisional Volunteer Manager. Her expertise is in Business Management. Shawndell writes, implements, and enforces policies and procedures, as well as comply and adhere to Illinois and Missouri laws, as they relate to the protection and screening of children and vulnerable adults.

Those that know her would say that she is a very detailed, organized, and loyal individual.

Ms. Williams recently suffered yet survived one of the most traumatic hardships of her life with the loss of her youngest son who was murdered two-weeks before his high school graduation. This experience has allowed her to grow, blossom, and elevate to another level with a different look at humanity and mankind. She has chosen to forgive her son's murderers. It has not been easy, so she strives daily to attract what she expects, reflect what she desires and become what she respects and mirrors what she admires.



*Medical*

# Addie Randolph

Mrs. Addie Randolph worked for 49 years in the field of respiratory therapist, retiring as the Cardiopulmonary Director, responsible for five departments. She worked her full career, through many transitions, at Touchette Regional Hospital in Centreville, IL. Presently, she is working for the NAACP Madison Branch as a Community Healthcare Consultant.

As a healthcare consultant, she is responsible for working with individual families that are experiencing the COVID virus. Resources are provided to help with financial issues, food delivery, and cleaning needs, while residents are in isolation.

She was married for 48 years to the late Mr. Donald Maurice Randolph. She's a mother of two sons, Pastor Dion Randolph, pastor of All Saints Missionary Baptist Church, St. Louis, MO, and Mark Anthony Randolph retired United States Navy as Master Chief after a 30-year career. She is a member of the All Saints Missionary Baptist Church serving as Mother of the church and Assistant Sunday Superintendent. Her favorite scripture is Psalms 23. To God Be The GLORY for all that HE has done!



*Media*

# Kelley Hoskins

St. Louis native, Kelley Hoskins is an award-winning news anchor and reporter. She earned her Bachelor's Degree in English at Fisk University in Nashville, Tennessee.

Prior to joining KTVI FOX 2 News, Hoskins worked for KPLR CW11 News as a reporter. She also worked as a feature reporter and producer with KDNL ABC 30 in St. Louis, a freelance journalist for STL-TV, the government-access station for the City of St. Louis, a writer/intern for WSMV-TV. Her radio work includes a stint for KMOX Radio and a Radio Talk Show Host for WSFK Radio In Nashville Tennessee.



Hoskins' career is marked by many highlights as a producer, reporter, and on-air personality. This includes interviews with former Vice President Al Gore, and former Secretary of State Colin Powell.

The St. Louis Chapter of the Association of Black Journalists named her "Best Reporter" for her feature of History Legends. Her reporting on the Tuskegee Airmen at KPLR TV and duties as host for "This Week In St. Louis" with KDNL ABC 30 garnered her two Emmy nominations. She also has many awards and honors including the St. Louis Urban League Excellence in Media Award for her contributions to the community in media.

A gifted orator, and sought-after motivational speaker, Kelley has won first place in oratorical competitions local, state, regional and national sponsored by American Legion Posts, Elks of the World and the National Association for Advancement of Colored People and many more. Hoskins also serves as a motivational speaker for businesses and community organizations.



# Scott Marion

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A 1976 graduate of Brentwood High School and a 1980 graduate of the University of Missouri, Scott Marion worked nearly 32 years as a sportswriter for the *Suburban Journals*.

He joined *the Edwardsville Intelligencer* as a sportswriter in December 2013 and is currently a news/feature writer.

*Community*



# Amanda Nicole Brinson

Amanda grew up in a small-town call Jena, LA. She graduated in the top 10 of her class at Jena High School in 2001 and moved on to attend Grambling State University, an HBCU. At Grambling she earned her Bachelors in Political Science in 2004 and her Master's in Public Administration with a concentration in Human Resource Management in 2006. She graduated with honors from both programs.

Amanda was offered a job with the Department of Defense at Scott AFB, IL in 2006 and has been working with the Government in ever since. She is currently a contracting officer representative where she oversees over \$3 billion dollars in service and software contracts.

She has a love for helping each other like no other. She joined the first black female sorority, Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc. on Dec 7, 2003 at Grambling State University, Alpha Theta Chapter. Amanda is currently the president of the East St. Louis Chapter, Delta Delta Omega Chapter of Alpha Kappa Alpha Sorority, Inc.

She is the proud child of Paul and Cathy Magee, and she also has only one child, Aubreyanna Keller, 11.

# Pam M. Weston

Pamela M. Weston is a senior communications leader, author, and employee engagement expert. An integral part of Pamela's professional life is community involvement, including volunteering with organizations that center on providing enrichment opportunities for youth and families.

She is president of the East St. Louis Alumnae Chapter of Delta Sigma Theta Sorority, Inc. Pamela also serves on the Board of Directors for Saint Louis Crisis Nursery as well as the United Way of Greater St. Louis' Women's Leadership Society Cabinet.

She holds a Bachelor of Science in Public Relations from Illinois State University. Pamela also earned master's degrees in Management and Leadership and Media Communications Management from Webster University as well as a Graduate Certificate in Change Leadership at Cornell University.



# Charles E. White, III

Charles E White III is known for his positive attitude and tireless energy.

Charles was born in East St Louis and graduated from East St. Louis High School “Go Flyers!”

Charles serves on the Board of Directors for *Mentoring with Purpose*, a local non-profit serving the East St. Louis at-risk underprivileged youth.

He is also a member of the Shiloh AME Church, where he is serving on the men’s choir, drama team and steward committee.

Charles has worked for ten years for the US Foods and is a Union Steward.



*Rising Stars*

# Keenon Leflore-Hamburg

- Keenon Leflore-Hamburg is a magnificent gift to Lakina Leflore and their entire family. He is a creative being blessed from God with many talents in the arts. He agrees with Jeremiah 29:11
- . Keenon is currently a junior at Grand Center Arts Academy. Keenon has found a love for the arts working behind the scenes and onstage at The Black Rep. He has participated in the Beverly Thomas Performing Arts Institute in the state of Michigan. He is training at Center of Creative Arts, (COCA) in University City.
- To express his love for God, he is an active member of Genesis Arts Ministry where he has ministered in dance in many worship services. Keenon has ministered here in the Metro-East area and traveled out of state to minister in dance as well. Keenon is loved and supported by Genesis Arts Ministry. His talent in the arts also led him to create a new logo for Genesis Arts Ministry which is adorning the new t-shirts, bags, stationary and everything else concerning the ministry. For several years, Keenon ministered in flag for MAPO. Keenon, aspires to continue, train, thrive and persevere in every ART assignment from God, his creator.





## Tonnie Kamkwala Jr.

Tonnie is the oldest of three kids and his parents are Alaina and Tonnie Kamkwala Sr. He attends the 8<sup>th</sup> grade at Hazelwood North Middle School, where he is on the "A" Honor Roll."

Tonnie is also a member of the school band. He plays several instruments, but the main ones he plays are the drum set, saxophone, piano, bass guitar and violin. He is a member of *Jazz U STL*, and also in *The Inner Ear Orchestra*.

Outside of school and extracurricular activities, Tonnie participates in the YPD and play drums for Bethel AME church. In his spare time, he likes to play video games, skateboard and solve Rubik's cubes.

Tonnie aspires to be a touring musician or a professional gamer when he grows up. He would also like to teach music later on.

He thanks for the opportunity and recognition as an honoree in this great organization, MAPO.

# Dhiya Prasanna



Dhiya is always very passionate about Art and Craft. She is very creative . She started to scribble when she was one year old, and she could convert her imagination into Art as she grew. She drew many pictures on her own with our any coaching. We put her in art class when she was 9. She learnt watercolor , acrylic painting, oil painting, pencil sketch and oil pastel. She is a calm and composed kid but very active . Art is one thing that can make her sit and focus for many hours together . Dhiya won many Art competitions, and she also teaches art to small kids during summer break . Apart from Art Dhiya loves Music . She is learning Piano and Indian classical music ( vocal), karate and Bharatnatyam. Dhiya is good at studies ; she is part of gifted academy too. Dhiya means light



# Sejal Sekhar

Sejal Sekhar is a junior at Visitation Academy, where she competes as a tri-season varsity athlete and student council president. With a draw to humanities and service, Sekhar co-founded COVID 501(c)(3) to provide essential supplies to vulnerable populations during and after the pandemic. Her desire for helping others inspired her to help immigrant populations.

Through a nonprofit initiative she founded called Pets4Purpose, Sejal creates dog toys in exchange for donations to immigrant schools and families. Sekhar, a part of Ambassadors of Hope, helped create murals of the commonalities in religion to bring communities closer together. Continuing her work in community integration, she built murals out of canned foods with people of varying backgrounds to not only show the beauty of donating, but the importance of togetherness. The life-sized murals created by the cans were then displayed at places such as the Magic House and Science Center.

After a couple months, the cans within the display were then donated to various shelters to provide non-perishable items to those in need. In a few weeks, she will begin her work in hospice care to aid those on their final stretch of life. For her future, Sejal Sekhar hopes to be a lawyer to provide equality and equity for all.

*Scholarships*

# *Scholarship Presenters*



Dr. Tisha Glasper, President  
of  
Venice School Board



Mr. Robert Werden  
Madison County Regional  
Superintendent of Schools



Rev. Nathaniel Randall  
Serving at Faith Temple, AME  
Springfield, IL

# MAPO Scholarships Recipients



Amelia Barfield  
Triad High School



Grace Byron  
East Alton Wood-  
River High School



Virgie Jones  
Cahokia High School



Ella Lowry  
Mascoutah High School



Jack Kollins  
O'Fallon Township High School



Kamrer Mason-El  
Alton High School

# *Presentation of Gifts to Shelters*



**MAPO Outreach Coordinators  
Mr. David and Mrs. Marion Hoskin**

**Ms. Kim Wescott**



**Bishop George Hayes  
COGIC  
MAPO Ecumenical  
Coordinator**



**Dr. Sunitha Thanjavum,  
MAPO Outreach**

*Thank you*

*On behalf of Mapo, we are  
indeed grateful for your support to  
the honorees and for your  
generosity.*

# *Benediction*



Presiding Elder Gary McCants  
A.M.E. Church  
Springfield, IL  
MAPO Honorary Member



# Holiday Shoutout Drive By Giveaway

Metro Area Professional Organization  
(MAPO)

National Shrine of Our Lady of the Snows - Gould Center  
442 S. Demazenod Drive  
Belleville, IL 62223

**SATURDAY, DECEMBER 3, 2022**  
**11:00 AM - 3:00 PM**

## Giveaway Blessings:

Coats  
Sweaters  
Hats  
Socks  
Scarves  
Gloves  
Blankets

Contact us at:  
618-799-8020  
618-589-6078

[www.metro-mapo.org](http://www.metro-mapo.org)

[MetroAreaProfessionalorg@gmail.com](mailto:MetroAreaProfessionalorg@gmail.com)

\*\*\*While Supplies Last\*\*\*

